

# REEL WORK 2009 ~ May Day Labor Film Festival

Admission: Voluntary donation @ the door

## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY EVENTS

### Thursday, April 23

7 pm

Calvary Episcopal "Red" Church, Santa Cruz

**The Willmar 8** (Director: Lee Grant, 1980, 50 min)

Eight unassuming, apolitical women in America's heartland, driven by sex discrimination at work, assert their equality and self-worth and find themselves in the forefront of the struggle for women's rights in the longest bank strike in American history.

**Poto Mitan** (Directors: Renée Bergan & Mark Schluller, 2009, 52 min)

The compelling lives of five courageous Haitian women workers give the global economy a human face. Through their collective activism, these women demonstrate that despite monumental obstacles in a poor country like Haiti, collective action makes change possible.



**Speakers:** Anu Menon, SF Department on the Status of Women; Pat Bakalian, Campaign for Gender Equality

**Sponsor:** Santa Cruz County Women's Commission

### Friday, April 24

7 pm

Watsonville City Council Chambers

**UFW** (Filmmaker: Alex Ivany, 2009 - work in progress, 18 min)

The legacy of Cesar Chavez and the union movement he inspired.

**Workers' Republic** (Filmmaker: Andrew Freund, 2009, 50 min)

Three weeks before Christmas 2008, Chicago company Republic Windows and Doors told their workforce that the factory was closing immediately. The workers' bold reaction reverberated across the country as they occupied the doomed factory, declaring they would not leave until they received the back pay and severance their employer owed them. Members of United Electrical, Radio, & Machine Workers of America, the workers' union activism, accompanied by an outpouring of solidarity from all over, was successful after six days and is leading to a brighter future.



Photo credit: Abraham Mwaura

**Documentary on the Occupation** (Producer: United Electrical, Radio, & Machine Workers Union, 2008, 20 min)

Video record by UE Union staff of the Republic Door & Window takeover.

**Speakers:** Andrew Freund, filmmaker; Armando Robles, UE Local 1110 President; Melvin Maclin, UE Local 1110 VP; Mark Meister, UE Organizer

**Sponsor:** Pajaro Valley Federation of Teachers

### Saturday, April 25

7 pm

Quaker Meeting House, Santa Cruz

**The Corporation** (Director: Mark Achbar, 2004, 145 min)

The nature and spectacular rise of the dominant institution of our time is explored. Taking its status as a legal "person" to the logical conclusion, the film puts the corporation on the psychiatrist's couch to ask "What kind of person is it?" The Sundance award-winner includes interviews with 40 corporate insiders and critics.

**Speaker:** Skip Spitzer, sociologist & social change trainer

**Sponsor:** WILPF Corporations vs. Democracy Committee

### Sunday, April 26

**Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the WTO protest in Seattle**

noon

Nickelodeon Theatre, Santa Cruz

**Battle In Seattle**

(Director: Stuart Townsend, 2008, 98 min)

Dramatic portrayal of the demonstrations which paralyzed the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle in 1999. Labor unions, environmentalists, consumer advocates, students, anarchists and pacifists all converged, bringing attention to the WTO's rules affecting democracy around the world.

**Music:** Mark Levy

**Speaker:** A panel of Santa Cruz veterans of the real battle in Seattle discuss what the Hollywood version got right and missed.



4 pm

Calvary Episcopal "Red" Church, Santa Cruz

**This Is What Democracy Looks Like** (Directors: Jill Friedberg & Rick Rowley 2000, 72 min)

At the WTO protests in Seattle in 1999, activists had a collective vision. People from across the political and cultural spectrum came together to stand up in a way that we have not seen in this country for decades.

**Awaken** (Filmmaker: George Ballis, 2000, 32 min)

Adventures of 5 union plumbers during the historic events to stop the WTO in Seattle.

**Speakers:** Skip Spitzer, sociologist & social change trainer; Fred Hirsch, retired plumber & labor activist; Ruth Hunter, lifelong activist

### Monday, April 27

7 pm

Community TV Studio, Santa Cruz

**Argentina Turning Around** (Directors: Mark Dworkin & Melissa Young, 2008, 37 min)

In the 90s Argentina embraced globalization, but instead of making everyone rich, the economy collapsed. People turned to each other for mutual support in a remarkable outpouring of grassroots organizing, and they continue to re-invent their society to offer a better life for all.



**Ants That Move Mountains** (Producer: Jodi Milano, 2002, 14 min)

In the wake of Hurricane Mitch, women of Nueva Vida, Nicaragua literally build Maquiladora Mujeres sewing cooperative from the ground up.

**Democracy in the Workplace: All About Collectives**

(Videographers: Margot Smith and Bob Purdy, 1999, 28 min)

Three worker-owned businesses show what it's like to work collectively, manage a business, and deal with problems in a truly democratic way. The Cheeseboard Bakery and Cheese Shop, Rainbow Grocery, and Inkworks Press in the San Francisco Bay Area thrive for decades.

**Speaker:** Ross Newport, Community Printers

**Sponsor:** United Nations Association of Santa Cruz County

### Tuesday, April 28

**Workers Memorial Day**

7 pm

Louden Nelson Center, Room 3, Santa Cruz

**Prostitution: Sex Work or Sexual Exploitation**

**Demand** (Producer: Derek Holstad, 2007, 45 min)

A documentary featuring investigative footage of the dark and hidden world of sex traffickers and buyers through interviews with men who buy commercial sex, the vulnerable women and children sold as commodities, and the facilitators of the sale within the marketplace of exploitation.

**Introduction:** Debora Bone, educator & past union president; Valerie Lasciak, Reel Work organizer

**Speakers:** Melissa Farley, writer and research psychologist; Ann Simonton, media activist; Angel Cassidy, change agent and substance abuse counselor

**Sponsor:** Media Watch

### Wednesday, April 29

7 pm

Veterans Memorial Hall, Santa Cruz

**Winter Soldier** (Producer: Vietnam Veterans Against the War, 1972, 96 min)

Former US soldiers who served in Vietnam testify for three days in Detroit about their war experiences. Excerpts to be screened.

**Winter Soldier: Iraq & Afghanistan** (Producer: Iraq Veterans Against the War, 2008, 65 min)

In spring 2008, inspired by the Vietnam-era Winter Soldier hearings, Iraq Veterans Against the War gathered outside Washington, DC and testified to atrocities they witnessed while deployed in the occupations of Afghanistan and Iraq. The film captures powerful words and images, ignored by mainstream media, of workers in the military system.

**Speaker:** Tim McCormick

**Music:** Santa Cruz Peace Chorale

**Sponsor:** VFW Bill Motto Post 5888

### Thursday, April 30

7 pm

Del Mar Theatre, Santa Cruz

**The Red Tail** (Directors: Dawn Mikkelson & Melissa Koch, 2009, 86 min)

**Sneak Preview in celebration of International Workers Day**

While 4,400 aircraft mechanics wage a seemingly endless strike in response to Northwest Airlines' massive layoffs, one of them, Roy Koch, and his daughter Melissa, follow Roy's outsourced job to China. This unlikely duo of "working-class nobodies" discover the intricate paths that have led us here, and the real power of solidarity.



**Speakers:** Dawn Mikkelson & Melissa Koch, filmmakers, and Roy Koch, former airline mechanic

### Friday, May 1

**International Workers Day**

4-9 pm

Watsonville City Plaza

**May 1st March & Rally for Immigrant and Worker Rights**

Classes, Rally, March, Cultural Performances, and Films in the evening.

**Golden Lands, Working Hands** (Director: Fred Glass, 1999, 27 min)

California labor history classic in 10 parts. Segments on farmworkers and teachers organizing will be screened.

**Speaker:** Fred Glass, Communications Director, California Federation of Teachers

**Sponsor:** Viernes Cultural

### Saturday, May 2

**Growing Food and Fuel: Film & Art Show**

Live Oak Grange, Santa Cruz

3 pm

**My Friends At The Farm** (Producer: Farm Sanctuary, 2006, 19 min)

Corporate food industry treatment of animals on factory farms is contrasted with the peaceful lives of sanctuary animals. Viewers are encouraged to think about the consequences of their food choices.

**Tackling Child Labour In Agriculture** (Producer: International Labour Organization, 2007, 9 min)

Worldwide, 132 million girls and boys aged 5-14 work in the agricultural sector, helping produce the food and beverages we consume.

**Bracero Stories** (Producer: Patrick Mullins, 2008, 56 min)

Personal stories of five former braceros are documented to learn directly about their experiences, putting a human face on the concept of foreign "guest worker."

**Music:** Peter Weiss, "The Singing Scientist"

**Speakers:** Karen Kaplan, Valerie Lasciak, Ken Knobler, Batya Kagan, Michael Levy, Jay Cabrera, Ray Newkirk, Bill Le Bon, David Blume



**6 pm Vegetarian Potluck**

Desserts provided. Please bring your cup, plate & utensils.

7 pm

**Burger King Exposed** (Producer: Brave New Films, 2009, 4 min)

Fast food chain is owned by Goldman Sachs. CEO is paid 360 times more than the workers.

**Growing Awareness** (Director: Jade Ajani, 2007, 103 min)

Small-scale organic farmers in the Pacific Northwest successfully operate as Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). Consumers who buy shares of a local farm's harvest receive a weekly supply of fresh food throughout the growing season and have a stake in the well being of the land and workers.



**Music:** Barney Greer And The Dinosaurs

**Speakers:** Peter Beckmann, Langdon Roberts, Liz Milazzo, Darryl Wong, Jade Ajani, filmmaker

### Sunday, May 3

**4 pm Union Democracy, What Does It Look Like?**

SEIU Union Hall, Santa Cruz

Film Clips from the Labor Video Project and speakers from SEIU Local 521 and NUHCW. Please join us for a serious discussion on union democracy.

**Speakers:** Steve Zeltzer, Labor Video Project; Nick Steinmeier, SEIU 521 Staff Director; Workers from NUHCW and SEIU

### Monday, May 4

7 pm

Kresge Town Hall, UCSC

**UFW** (Filmmaker: Alexander Ivany, 2009-work in progress, 18 min)

The legacy of Cesar Chavez and the union movement he inspired.

**Learning to Bend Steel**

(Filmmaker: Alex Johnston, 2009, 10 min)

Legendary labor activist, historian, and folklorist Archie Green's early days as an aspiring shipwright on the dry docks of 1940's San Francisco. The film is a meditation on the nature of work and a chronicle of Green's early embrace of workers' culture.

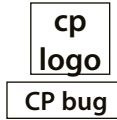


**Dos Americas: The Reconstruction of New Orleans**

(Filmmaker: David Zlutnick, 2008, 47 min)

The growing Latino population of post-Katrina New Orleans contributes to the rebuilding of the city but faces racial tensions, wage theft, police brutality, and exploitation on the job, with some relief offered by community organizing.

**Speakers:** Filmmakers will be in attendance.



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831-477-1665  
info@reelwork.org  
www.reelwork.org  
April 20-May 4, 2009  
Santa Clara Counties  
& Monterey & Santa Cruz

# May Day Labor Film Festival

# REELWORK 2009

## VENUES

### Calvary Episcopal "Red Church"

532 Center Street at Lincoln Street, Santa Cruz  
Downtown, 4 blocks NW of Metro Center

### Community Television Studio

816 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz  
Downtown, 1 block south of Metro Center

### CSUMB Bay Media Center

Building 18, Room 118, Intergarrison Road and 4th Avenue, Seaside  
Park near the Visitor's Center for \$2 in quarters. Bus: MST route 16

### CSUMB Tanimura and Antle Family Memorial Library

Room 1180, Divarty Street and Fifth Avenue, Seaside  
Park in Lot #17 for \$2 in quarters. Bus: MST route 16

### Kresge Town Hall

North end of Kresge College, UC Santa Cruz  
Bus: all University routes

### Del Mar Theater

1124 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz  
Downtown, 2 blocks north of Metro Center

### Louden Nelson Center, Room 3

301 Center Street, Santa Cruz  
Downtown, 2 blocks west of Metro Center

### Nickelodeon Theatre

210 Lincoln Street, Santa Cruz  
Downtown, 4 blocks northwest of Metro Center

### Plumbers' Union Hall, UA Local 393

6150 Cottle Road, behind Social Security Office, San Jose

### Quaker Meeting House

225 Rooney Street, Santa Cruz  
At end of Morrissey Boulevard just north of Highway 1  
Bus: 0.8 mile from route 69 stop

### Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange

1900 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz  
1 block north of Capitola Road. Bus: route 69

### San José City College Drama Theatre

### San José City College Student Center

2100 Moorpark Avenue, San Jose. Bus: VTA routes 23 & 65

### SEIU Local 521 Union Hall

517 Mission Street at Locust Street, Santa Cruz. Bus: route 10

### Veterans Memorial Building

846 Front St, Santa Cruz. Downtown, across from Town Clock

### Watsonville City Hall Council Chambers

275 Main Street, 4th Floor, Watsonville. Parking at 6th Level  
Downtown, 2 blocks east of plaza, 3 blocks east of Metro Center



## MONTEREY COUNTY EVENTS

### Thursday, April 23

7 pm

CSUMB Tanimura and Antle Library 1180

### Workers' Republic (Filmmaker: Andrew Freund, 2009, 50 min)

Employees occupy closing Chicago factory for severance pay and their future. (See Santa Cruz County, April 24)

### Documentary on the Occupation

(Producer: United Electrical Workers Union, 2008, 20 min)

Video record by UE Union staff of the Republic Door & Window takeover. (See Santa Cruz County, April 24)

**Speakers:** Andrew Freund, filmmaker; Armando Robles, UE Local 1110 President; Melvin Maclin, UE Local 1110 VP; Mark Meinster, UE Organizer

### Monday, April 27

7 pm

CSUMB Media Learning Center 18/118

### Dos Americas: The Reconstruction of New Orleans

(Filmmaker: David Zlutnick, 2008, 47 min)

Latino workers drawn to the city after Katrina find themselves pitted against other exploited groups. (See Santa Cruz County, May 4)

### Bracero Stories (Producer: Patrick Mullins, 2008, 56 min)

Stories of five former braceros put a human face on the concept of foreign "guest worker." (See Santa Cruz County, May 2)

### Argentina Turning Around (Directors: Mark Dworkin & Melissa Young, 2008, 37 min)

New models of work, politics and community development in Argentina. (See Santa Cruz County, April 27)

### Friday, May 1

noon

### May Day Rally in CSUMB Quad

2 pm

CSUMB Tanimura and Antle Library 1180

### The Red Tail

(Directors: Dawn Mikkelsen & Melissa Koch, 2009, 86 min)

### Sneak Preview in celebration of International Workers Day

Laid-off Northwest Airlines mechanic travels to China to meet his replacement. See Santa Cruz County, April 30)

**Speakers:** Dawn Mikkelsen, Melissa Koch & Roy Koch

6 pm

Asilomar Conference Center, 800 Asilomar Blvd. (at Sinex), Pacific Grove

### Monterey Bay Central Labor Council May Day Awards Dinner

Tickets: 831-422-4626 or www.montereybaylabor.org

**Sponsors of all CSUMB events:** California Faculty Association at CSUMB, Student California Teacher's Association at CSUMB

## SUSTAINERS

The Miguel Contreras UC Labor Studies Development Fund

Community Television of Santa Cruz County

Nickelodeon Theatre

Community Printers (represented by GCIU Local 388)

Monterey Bay Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

## SPONSORS

Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 4400

California Faculty Association at CSUMB

California Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO

California History Center at De Anza College

California State University - Monterey Bay

East Cliff Video

Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 2030

Industrial Workers of the World - Santa Cruz Branch

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

Laborers Local 270

Latina Leadership Network - San Jose Chapter

Nine To Five - Bay Area Chapter

Pajaro Valley Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 1936

San José City College Library

San José/Evergreen Community College District

Office of the Chancellor

SJCC Labor Studies Club

Santa Cruz Council of Classified Employees, AFT Local 6084

Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange

Sasquatch Computer

Service Employees International Union Local 521

Trader Joe's

UCSC Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community

UCSC Community Studies Department

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners Local 505

United Food & Commercial Workers Local 5

United Nations Association of Santa Cruz County

United Transportation Union Local 23

University Council, AFT Local 2199

Video Video



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## SANTA CLARA COUNTY EVENTS

### Monday, April 20

6:30 Honoring Earth Day

Location TBA (email laborstudies@sbcglobal.net for info)

### The Greening of Southie (Director: Ian Cheney, 2008, 72 min)

The story of Boston's first LEED-certified residential green building and the people who made it possible.

### Wednesday, April 22

6:30 pm

Drama Building, San José City College

### Made In LA (Producers: Almudena Carracedo & Robert Bahar, 2007, 70 min)

The remarkable story of three Latina immigrants working in Los Angeles garment sweatshops as they embark on a three-year odyssey to win basic labor protections from trendy clothing retailer Forever 21.

**Speakers:** Rosa Perez, Chancellor, San José/Evergreen Community College District; Michael Burke, President, SJCC; Almudena Carracedo, filmmaker

### Thursday, April 23

6:30 pm

San José City College Student Center Community Room

### Lost and Found (Filmmakers: UCLA students, 2008, 5 min)

Tales of UCLA students who struggle with the documentation issue featured in this short film and in a book on the same topic, *Undocumented Undergraduates*, lead to discussion of the mobilization to secure passage of the DREAM Act in Congress this year.

**Sponsors of all Santa Clara County events:** SJCC Labor Studies, Santa Clara County Building Trades Council

### Saturday, April 25

4 pm

Plumbers' Union Hall, UA Local 393, San Jose

### Workers' Republic (Filmmaker: Andrew Freund, 2009, 50 min)

Employees occupy closing Chicago factory for severance pay and their future. (See Santa Cruz County, April 24)

**Speakers:** Andrew Freund, filmmaker; Armando Robles, UE Local 1110 President; Melvin Maclin, UE Local 1110 VP; Mark Meinster, UE Organizer

**Sponsors of all Santa Clara County events:** SJCC Labor Studies, Santa Clara County Building Trades Council

## SPEAKERS (see www.reelwork.org for more info) . . . .

**Andrew Freund**, Socialist filmmaker whose work has appeared on PBS and Chicago television stations. He has produced several half-hour episodes for the non-profit, pro-union TV show *Labor Beat*, and serves as chairman of its board. Freund is an IBEW steward, an activist against war and domestic violence, and uses his video skills to campaign for workers' rights.

**Armando Robles** is President of UE Local 1110, which represents workers formerly at Republic Windows and Doors.

**Melvin "Ricky" Maclin** is Vice-President of UE Local 1110. Both Robles and Maclin were on the committee that originally organized UE at Republic and have served as shop stewards and on the negotiations committee. Both were instrumental in negotiating the settlement with Bank of America and the foundation of the Window of Opportunity Fund. A native of Mexico, Robles immigrated to the states in 1988 in search of a better life. Maclin is the grandson of a sharecropper from Tennessee.

**Mark Meinster** is an International Representative for the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE). Meinster coordinates UE's organizing, collective bargaining and education work in Illinois and southern Wisconsin. He led UE's successful efforts over the past seven years to organize thousands of immigrants working in Chicago's manufacturing sector.

**Dawn Mikkelsen**, co-director of *The Red Tail*, is both an award-winning media producer and documentary filmmaker. A former television news reporter, Mikkelsen formed Emergence Pictures, focusing exclusively on video and film with a mission to inform, educate, and inspire audiences by telling the stories of organizations, companies, and individuals that are changing our world.

**Melissa Koch** is an emerging filmmaker, *The Red Tail* being her first feature length documentary as co-director. Her father worked as a Northwest Airlines mechanic for 23 years, and Koch's personal experience brings an intimate and dynamic perspective to the film. She is a multi-disciplinary artist/storyteller who has worked with narrative short and documentary video, photography, audio, sculpture, and bookmaking.

## WHY EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE?

The US Middle Class can trace its origin to the Wagner Act of 1935, which protected the rights of most workers to organize. This legislation was adopted as a means to pull the economy out of the Great Depression. The subsequent boom in union membership led to a more prosperous workforce that has shared in the wealth of the nation and stimulated its economy.

After 75 years, workers' rights have been weakened and blunted so that most of us are losing ground economically and the Middle Class is shrinking. The Employee Free Choice Act of 2009 (HR 1409) will remove roadblocks from the union organizing process and allow workers today to create the Middle Class of the future.